

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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| Applicant's or agent's file reference BCT990024/BLO | FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416) | |
| International application No. PCT/FR99/01830 | International filing date (day/month/year) 26 July 1999 (26.07.99) | Priority date (day/month/year) 28 July 1998 (28.07.98) |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC F16G 11/04 | | |
| Applicant FREYSSINET INTERNATIONAL (STUP) | | |

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.

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3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

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| Date of submission of the demand 31 January 2000 (31.01.00) | Date of completion of this report 27 April 2000 (27.04.2000) |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP | Authorized officer |
| Facsimile No. | Telephone No. |

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/FR99/01830

I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of *(Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.)*:

- ☐ the international application as originally filed.
- ☒ the description, pages 1-10, as originally filed,
 pages _____, filed with the demand,
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____,
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____.
- ☒ the claims, Nos. 1-7, as originally filed,
 Nos. _____, as amended under Article 19,
 Nos. _____, filed with the demand,
 Nos. _____, filed with the letter of _____,
 Nos. _____, filed with the letter of _____.
- ☒ the drawings, sheets/fig 1/1, as originally filed,
 sheets/fig _____, filed with the demand,
 sheets/fig _____, filed with the letter of _____,
 sheets/fig _____, filed with the letter of _____.

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

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3. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

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International application No.

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|-----|-----|
| Novelty (N) | Claims | 1-7 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |
| Inventive step (IS) | Claims | 1-7 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims | 1-7 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |

2. Citations and explanations

Independent Claims 1 and 3:

The two independent Claims 1 and 3 have been delimited in relation to document FR-A-2 586 076 (D1) and relate to a single workpiece for making a cable anchoring jaw and a production method for a cable anchoring jaw, respectively.

It is known from D1 to produce such a cable anchoring jaw from a single workpiece wherein a generally cylindrical channel is formed to receive the cable, cuts are then made in the single workpiece starting at its periphery and along radial planes thus forming radial slots which delimit angular sectors of the workpiece, said cuts ending before reaching the channel so as to leave bridges which connect the sectors at the bottom of the corresponding slots.

The problem with this type of jaw is that it is not possible to control the way in which the bridges break when the sectors are separated, which can adversely affect the quality of the anchoring.

This problem is solved by the single general inventive concept linking these independent claims, namely that each

bridge has, on the side facing the respective slot, a surface whereof at least one part is at an angle to the direction (X) perpendicular to the radial plane of said slot, so that the radial thickness at said bridge is at a minimum at a predetermined position along said direction (X). Therefore, the bridge is broken in a predetermined position corresponding to this minimum thickness.

Such a concept is not described or suggested by D1.

The subject matter of the claims appears clearly is industrially applicable.

Therefore, the subject matter of Claims 1 and 3 meets the requirements of PCT Article 33(2) and (3).

Claims 2 and 4-7:

These dependent claims refer to improvements to the inventive concept described in the independent claims.